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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T

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COUNTRY USSR

REPORT

SUBJECT 1. Unusual Railroad Cars
2. Transportation in the Soviet Arctic and Siberia
3. Industries in Norilsk, Sverdlovsk, and Novosibirsk

DATE DISTR. 3 February 1960

NO. PAGES 1

REFERENCES

DATE OF INFO.

PLACE & DATE ACQ

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

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Attachment 1: A five-page report [] which describes an unusual train observed in the Sverdlovsk area and gives some information on Stroyka 476 in Norilsk, industrial installations in Sverdlovsk, and an atomnyy zavod in Novosibirsk.

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD.

SUBJECT:

1. Sighting of peculiar railroad train in Sverdlevsk area

between 10 and 24 kilometers east of Sverdlevsk. It was a long train, from 40 to 50 cars, moving from east to west. It was stopped temporarily at

a station. The cars of the train did not have windows. They were of metal and of a grey-green color. The roofs of the cars were darker than the main part.

it was a refrigerator train taking meat to East

Germany

Refrigerator cars.

seen before, are white. Furthermore, the personnel of this train were both military and civilian - mixed. It is also curious that the

personnel of the station did not have too much to do with this train

The civilian personnel on the train appeared to be well-dressed. The civilian personnel remained on the train. The military personnel left the train to buy milk and other such provisions. The uniforms of the military personnel were khaki-green, very similar to the color of the train. I saw the entire train. It consisted of only one type of car. Usually it is possible to crawl under the cars of a Soviet train. These cars were constructed so that one could not crawl under the. It was necessary to go all the way around the train to get from one side of it to the other. The cars

did not have windows, but they had a place covered with a grill through which one could see personnel moving and apparently concerned with some sort of equipment. The cars were very clean. A rough sketch

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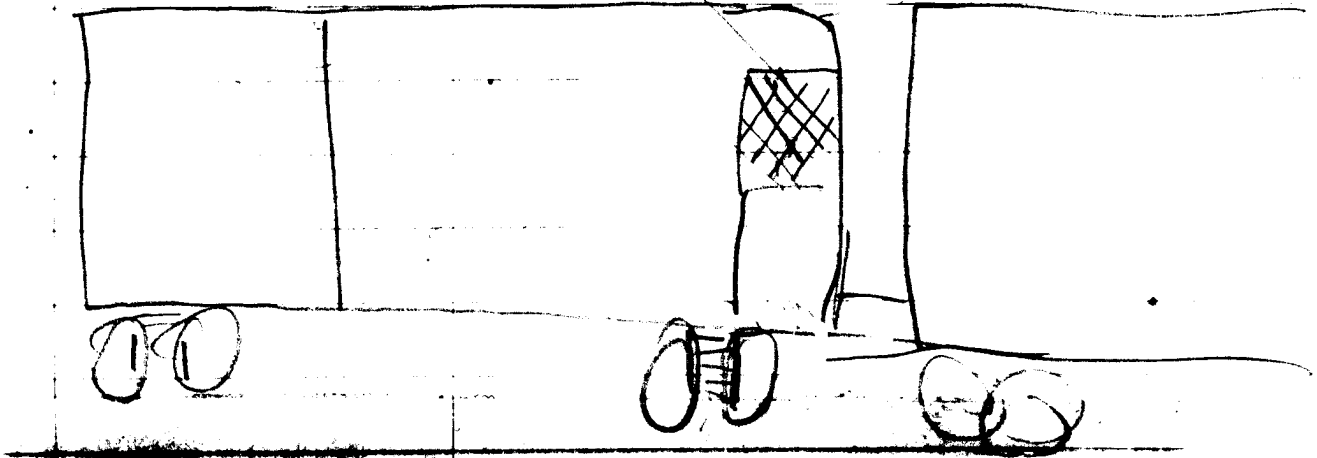
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of one of these cars is as follows:

Handwritten: ~~_____~~
Handwritten: ~~_____~~
sketch of peculiar car in
train noted between 10 and 24 km east
of Sverdlovsk.

Handwritten: ~~_____~~
car with engine
wrecked with gas
part of equipment,



2. Norilsk. Stroyka 476. The secret factory in Norilsk is very important.

~~_____~~ a camp official
told ~~_____~~

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- You will be forgiven for making mistakes in shipments to other factories, but you will not be forgiven for making a mistake in shipping to Stroyka 476.
- Stroyka 476 is concerned with making heavy water (Tyazhelaya voda).

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3.

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[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted] it was a so-called Vsesoyuznaya

Stroyka, unlike the other factories in the area. Factory 476 received much cement and lumber. Sometimes it received prefabricated concrete building elements. These building elements were designated БГ-275. They were 2.65 meters long. They had four armatures inside. These armatures were 4 mm (sic) in diameter. The factory was about 150 meters from Lenin Square in Norilsk. It was surrounded by a board wall so that one could not see inside the compound. I heard no unusual noises coming from inside the ~~factory~~ factory area.

3. Norilsk. General comments on ~~food~~ supply.

(a) Explosives used in the mines in the Norilsk area come from Lvov.

They were received in [redacted] paper
sacs marked "LVOV". The sacs were in wooden cases marked
O T K.

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(b) Cement used in Norilsk came from Poland. Cement was in short
supply [redacted]

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(c) Many conserved foods came to Norilsk from Minsk. Fish products came from Baikal. They were an essential item of diet. There was sometimes reindeer meat but practically no meat otherwise. Sometimes fish called Khamsa, Tyulka and Treska came from Odessa.

(d) Water pipes were insulated against freezing by a covering called
Opil'ky. The covering of Opil'ky was in turn covered with
asphalt paper. [redacted]

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4.

(e) From time to time, at night, we could see a blueish-red flame in the form of a curtain. [redacted] this was caused by the Norilsk copper factory. [redacted] the same sort of flame in Sverdlovsk.

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4. Sverdlovsk. General comments. [redacted]

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[redacted] There was a concrete road running from Sverdlovsk to the east. [redacted]

[redacted] Sometimes, at night, [redacted] blueish red flames in the form of a curtain similar to those [redacted] at Norilsk. There was no noise connected with the flames. Bad odors came from the forest to the east [redacted] The peasants in the area said that if these bad fumes continued they would not be able to continue raising the rabbits that they had. [redacted] there was a nikel factory in the area which had a floatation process. [redacted]

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5. Novosibirsk. [redacted]

[redacted] an underground factory at Novosibirsk. [redacted] it was rumored among the workers that this construction would be an atomniy zavod. He also stated that the framework of the structure was entirely in wood. He stated that the factory was 10-15 kilometers east of Novosibirsk, that all [redacted] labor were taken off the job and sent to other work in 1948, at which time they were beginning to do a lot of

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general, being highly mechanized, and ~~that~~ high-tension lines were
brought into the area.

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End of report.

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